

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUENOS 01458 241733Z  
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 ISO-00 /014 W  
-----241739 030394 /43/70

P R 232001Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9245  
INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 1458

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT PARA ONE)

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINR AR IR  
SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON JORGE ANTONIO COLL

REF: STATE 031120

1. ARGENTINE NUCLEAR PHYSICIST JORGE ANTONIO COLL RECENTLY RETURNED TO ARGENTINA AFTER 15 MONTHS IN IRAN TO BECOME SECRETARY-GENERAL AND CHIEF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OF THE ARGENTINE NATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION (CNEA). COLL WAS IN IRAN AS ADVISOR TO THE IRANIAN ATOMIC ENERGY PROGRAM IN 1930 AND 1976 AND APPARENTLY TOOK A SUBSTANTIAL CUT IN PAY TO REJOIN CNEA. COLL IS KNOWN TO EMBASSY SCIENCE COUNSELOR WHO FINDS HIM A GRACIOUS, SOFT-SPOKEN AND MILD-MANNERED MAN WHO IS AT THE SAME TIME VERY FRANK, OPEN AND EXTREMELY KNOWLEDGEABLE OF ATOMIC ENERGY MATTERS, BOTH IN THE DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT. THAT HE WAS SOUGHT IN IRAN TO TAKE OVER SEVERAL IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS IN CNEA--HE IS ALSO HEAD OF THE SAFEGUARDS PROGRAM--INDICATES HOW HIGHLY REGARDED HE IS BY THE CNEA. HE DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE ANY SPECIAL POLITICAL CONNECTIONS EITHER TO CNEA OR ITS DIRECTOR CASTRO MADERO. (SEE COLL-WILCOX MEMCON OF JANUARY 25, 1977 FOR MORE COLL'S THOUGHTS ON THE CNEA PROGRAM AND OTHER TOPICS. A COPY WAS SENT TO INR/DDR.)

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2. COLL WAS BORN IN FEBRUARY 20, 1934 IN SALTA, ARGENTINA. HE WAS LICENSED IN CHEMICAL SCIENCE IN 1956 AND RECEIVED A DOCTORATE IN CHEMISTRY IN 1963. IN 1960 HE WAS HEAD OF THE METALURGICAL DIVISION OF CNEA. COLL HAS TRAVELED OFFICIALLY TO EUROPE (MARCH 1958-JULY 1959), THE UNITED STATES (FEBRUARY-MARCH 1962) AND BRAZIL (IN 1964, 1965 AND 1966). HE APPARENTLY SPEAKS ENGLISH AND FRENCH AND KNOWS SOME ITALIAN. HE IS MARRIED

TO ILDA GABELLINI DE COLL.  
CHAPLIN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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